

HASSAN JEANNE M
80 KINGSTON 3476

06/30/81 112648... PRINTER: LI
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EXCISE

(25)

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 AID-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /097 W

039234 092038Z /67

(b)(1) ED;
b(5)

P 091955Z MAY 80

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

IN "O SECSTATE WASHDC 2746

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

CONFIDENTIAL KINGSTON 3476

E.O. 12065: GDS, 5/9/86 (LAWRENCE, LOREN E) OR-M

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, VE, JM

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN PERCEPTION OF RECENT EVENTS IN JAMAICA

REF: CARACAS 4133

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. []

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY RC

DATE

JUN 1982

PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

b(1) ED;
b(5)

THE OIL FACILITY IS BY FAR THE
MAJOR ASSISTANCE PACKAGE IN THE OFFING AND WOULD HAVE A
PRONOUNCED EFFECT ON THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO
SURVIVE A BIT LONGER AND PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT IN THE ELECTIONS
OR ON THE ABILITY OF A NEW GOVERNMENT TO GET A PROMISING
START.

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3. RE THE FIRST TICK UNDER PARA 3 OF THE REFTTEL,
ENUMERATION HAS NOT STARTED AND WILL NOT START UNTIL
THE END OF THIS MONTH OR EARLY IN JUNE. FOR VARIOUS
TECHNICAL REASONS THIS COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL LATE JUNE.
(ENUMERATORS MUST BE TRAINED). THE LISTS WILL THEN HAVE
TO BE CONSOLIDATED, PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED AND ELECTIONS
CALLED. WE BELIEVE THE EARLIEST ELECTIONS UNDER A NEW
ELECTORAL LIST COULD BE HELD IN MID-AUGUST, BUT MORE
LIKELY IT WOULD BE MID-SEPTEMBER OR LATER. (THE OLD
LIST DATES FROM 1976, IS OUTDATED, INACCURATE AND LEAVES
OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF FRAUD BY VOTING THE DEAD, ETC.
AS WELL AS DISFRANCHISING MANY). FROM EVERYTHING WE
KNOW THE LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES APPARENTLY WANT EARLY
ELECTIONS AS THEY FEAR SHORTAGES, LAY OFFS, ETC. WILL
SOON MAKE THE COUNTRY UNCOVERABLE. SOME BELIEVE THAT THE
LEFTISTS ARE NOT PUSHING FOR EARLY ELECTIONS AS THEY

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CAN FEAST ON THE GROWING VIOLENCE AND INSTABILITY.
WE AGREE WITH THE LEADERS THAT AN EARLY ELECTION IS
ESSENTIAL. TO SPEED UP THE COMPUTERIZATION OF THE
ENUERATION PROCESS OF THE GOJ IS GOING TO NEED HELP TO PAY
FOR LEASING OR BUYING COMPUTERS AND TO GET FAST PRINT
OUTS. PERHAPS THE GOV MIGHT WANT TO HELP WITH THIS.
4. OPINION POLLS CARRIED OUT BY AN INDEPENDENT POLLSTER
AND BY THE GOVERNING PARTY'S POLLSTERS ALL SHOW THE
OPPOSITION WITH AN OVERALL LEAD OF 14 - 15 PERCENT.
BARRING UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THE TREND FAVORABLE
TO THE OPPOSITION WILL CONTINUE AND THEY COULD WELL END
UP WITH A SLIGHTLY HIGHER MARGIN.
5.

b(1) ED; b(5)

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03:15:07:30